

REMARKS

Applicants have provided in this response a new copy of the Declaration under 37 C.F.R 1.131 originally filed 11/18/04 with all inventors signatures including James Doran. In the 11/18/04 filing, applicants noted that Mr. Doran's signature would be provided if requested by the Examiner. The Examiner has so requested in the Office Action dated 02/16/2005.

Applicants also provide in this response a re-printed copy of EXHIBIT B because the copy originally provided had printing errors which with no deceptive intent, simply were not previously noticed.

The examiner has also requested a mapping of EXHIBITS D, E, F, and G to the individual claims. Applicants respond as follows:

EXHIBIT D is an evaluation of the invention disclosed in the IBM Invention Disclosure SMS8-2001-0025 and attachments which are EXHIBITS A, B, and C. This disclosure maps to Applicants' Claim 1 in that EXHIBIT C shows an enterprise directory service which is receiving requests from an End user's browser, Programs using the BluePages API, and Programs using the SLAPAPI API depicted by ellipses in the upper right area of EXHIBIT C. A data store is shown in the left center area as a DB2 store (DB2 is a well known method of storing data). A web server having an API coupled to the data store is described in EXHIBIT A, page 2, 10th line of first full paragraph, as the BluePages Web Server API. In EXHIBIT C, this BluePages API is shown coupled to the DB2 data store via vertical arrows denoting sending and receiving. A

wrapper coupled to the API is described on EXHIBIT A, page 2, 12th and 13th lines of first full paragraph, as both the BluePages Lotus Script API and BluePages Java API. The first wrapper services Lotus Notes applications, and the second services Java applications.

EXHIBIT D has therefore been mapped to all the elements of Applicants' Claim 1.

With regard to Claim 2, a relational database is shown by the DB2 data store of EXHIBIT C because DB2 is well known to be a relational database system, as also stated in Applicants' specification page 8, line 17.

With regard to Claim 3, the data store of EXHIBIT C is shown to be an LDAP data store.

With regard to Claim 4, EXHIBIT C shows a plurality of API, e.g., SLAPHAPI and bluepagesAPI coupled to the data store via the vertical arrows noted above.

With regard to Claim 5, EXHIBIT A describes both a BluePages Lotus Script API and a BluePages Java API wrappers.

With regard to Claim 6, an API locator is shown in EXHIBIT C as the Domino GO Web Server for selecting the API.

Claims 7, 8, and 9 are also shown in EXHIBIT C.

Claims 10 through 21 are method and program product claims which parallel apparatus Claims 1 - 9 and are mapped in the same way as the respective apparatus claims.

EXHIBIT E is a memo regarding the search results and maps to the claims by reference to the underlying Invention Disclosure SMS820010025 in the SUBJECT: line. This Disclosure is the Disclosure and attachments of EXHIBITS A, B, and C, as noted and mapped to Applicants' claims above.

EXHIBIT F is a Fax Transmittal (cover sheet) for Applicants' drawings. Mapping to the claims is through Attorney Docket Number END920010073US1 in the subject line. This Docket Number appears at the bottom left of the present Application including pages 14 - 19 where Applicants' claims are found.

EXHIBIT G is an electronic note regarding inventor names. Mapping to the claims is through attorney Docket Number END920010073US1 which appears in the Subject: line of the note and also through the Invention Disclosure number END8-2001-0025 which precedes it.

Applicants have therefore provided the signature of James Doran and mapping to individual claims as requested by the Examiner. The Declaration of prior invention filed 12/23/2004 is now effective in removing Li (US. Patent 6,748,386) from further consideration and such removal is respectfully requested.

All of the claims in the present application have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Li in combination with other cited patents, namely Gupta (5,826,258), Kumar (6,343,287), Coden (5,873,080), and/or Madnick (6,282,537). However, removal of Li makes the rejections moot. Withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) and allowance of all of the claims is respectfully requested.

The Application is deemed in condition for allowance and such action by the Examiner is urged. Should differences remain, however, which do not place one/more of the remaining claims in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to phone the undersigned at the number provided below for the purpose of providing constructive assistance and suggestions in accordance with M.P.E.P. Sections 707, 707.07(d) and 707.07(j) in order that allowable claims can be presented, thereby placing the application in condition for allowance without further proceedings being necessary.

Respectfully submitted,

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